## ALASKA DEPARTMENT OF FISH AND GAME DIVISION OF COMMERCIAL FISHERIES

## **NEWS RELEASE**



Cora Campbell, Commissioner Jeff Regnart, Director



Contact: Bill Davidson

Phone: (907) 747-6688 Fax: (907) 747-6693 Sitka Area Office 304 Lake Street, Rm. 103 Sitka, Alaska 99835 Date: July 5, 2013 Time: 1:45 p.m.

## SOUTHEAST ALASKA DRIFT GILLNET FISHERY ANNOUNCEMENT

Sitka. . . The Alaska Department of Fish and Game announced today the opening of the Southeast Alaska drift gillnet fishery, during the times and in the areas listed below, beginning on Sunday, July 7, 2013.

Section 1-B: will be open from 12:01 p.m., Sunday, July 7, through 12:00 noon, Thursday, July 11, with the following restriction:

<u>Pearse and Portland Canals</u>: will be closed north of the latitude of Akeku Point located at the southern entrance of Edwards Passage.

District 6: will be open from 12:01 p.m., Sunday, July 7, through 12:00 noon, Wednesday, July 10, with the following restrictions:

<u>Section 6-D</u>: will be closed north and east of a line from Mariposa Rock Buoy to the northernmost tip of Point Harrington, to a point on Etolin Island at 56°09.60′ N. latitude, 132°42.70′ W. longitude, to the southernmost tip of Point Stanhope and south of a line from Point Stanhope to Luck Point;

<u>Salmon Bay</u>: will be closed west of a line from Point Colpoys to Rookery Island Light to the westernmost tip of Fire Island to a point on Prince of Wales Island at the latitude of the westernmost tip of Fire Island.

District 8: will be open from 12:01 p.m., Sunday, July 7, through 12:00 noon, Wednesday, July 10, with the following restrictions:

<u>Beacon Point/Point Frederick Area</u>: waters of Frederick Sound will be closed west of a line from the District 10 boundary one nautical mile off the Kupreanof Island shoreline to Sukoi Island Light to Point Frederick;

Stikine River: waters off the Stikine River will be closed north and west of a line from Babbler Point to Hour Point along the shore of Wrangell Island to Point Highfield to the southern end of Liesnoi Island to the southern end of Greys Island to the small island near the eastern entrance of Blind Slough to the nearest point of Mitkof Island, and south and east of a line from the prominent point of Mitkof Island nearest Coney Island to the northern end of Coney Island to a point 500 yards north of Jap Creek on the mainland shore;

<u>Kunk Creek</u>: waters of Kunk Creek will be closed west of a line extending due south from a point on Etolin Island at 56°17.82′ N. latitude, 132°22.98′ W. longitude, to the District 7/8 boundary line in Zimovia Strait.

Section 11-B: will be open from 12:01 p.m., Sunday, July 7, through 12:00 noon, Wednesday, July 10, with the following restrictions:

<u>Port Snettisham</u>: waters of Port Snettisham will be closed east of a line from Point Styleman to Point Anmer;

<u>Limestone Inlet</u>: will be closed east of a line from a point on the north shore at 58°02.09′ N. latitude, 133°58.87′ W. longitude to a point on the south shore at 58°01.92′ N. latitude, 133°58.87′ W. longitude (inside markers);

Gillnet mesh restriction south of the latitude of Circle Point (from a marker at approximately 58°07.76′ N. latitude): from 12:01 p.m., Sunday, July 7, through 12:00 noon, Wednesday, July 10, gillnets must have a minimum mesh size of six inches.

Section 15-A: will be open from **12:01 p.m.**, **Sunday**, **July 7**, **through 12:00 noon**, **Wednesday**, **July 10**, in the waters of Lynn Canal west of a line beginning at a point within two nautical miles of the western shoreline of Lynn Canal at the latitude of Point Sherman, to Eldred Rock Light, to the southernmost tip of Talsani Island, to the northernmost tip of Talsani Island, to Seduction Point, with the following restriction:

<u>Chilkat Inlet</u>: will be closed north of a line from a regulatory marker at Glacier Point at 59°06.02′ N. latitude, 135°22.97′ W. longitude to the westernmost tip of Twin Coves at 59°06.58′ N. latitude, 135°21.70′ W. longitude.

Section 15-C: will be open from **12:01 p.m.**, **Sunday**, **July 7**, **through 12:00 noon**, **Wednesday**, **July 10**, in those waters within two nautical miles of the western shoreline of Lynn Canal south of the latitude of Danger Point at 58°41.73′ N. latitude and in all remaining waters of Section 15-C south of the latitude of Point Bridget at **58°40.73′ N. latitude**.

<u>Gillnet Mesh Size Restriction in Section 15-C</u>: the minimum mesh size for gillnets fished in Section 15-C (except for the Boat Harbor Terminal Harvest Area) is six inches.

Section 15-C: The Boat Harbor terminal harvest area will be open until further notice in those waters within two nautical miles of the western shoreline of Lynn Canal from the latitude of Danger Point at 58°41.73′ N. latitude and south to a point 2.4 miles north of Point Whidbey at 58°36.96′ N. latitude.

Fishermen and tenders are asked to keep king salmon harvested in the Anita Bay THA separate from those harvested in District 8. Separating these harvests will greatly assist in fish accounting purposes in regards to the Pacific Salmon Treaty.

King salmon less than 28" that are harvested in the commercial drift gillnet fisheries may be retained and sold. King salmon less than 28" in length, and those of Alaska hatchery origin, will not be counted against the Alaskan allocation of the Pacific Salmon Treaty harvest. The department discontinued the use of species code 411 beginning in 2012 to account for small king salmon in drift gillnet fisheries and instead will rely on ADF&G port sampling programs for that purpose. For drift gillnet fisheries, only species code 410 should be used to report king salmon of all sizes. Fish and Game samplers working at the processing facilities will also identify hatchery-reared king salmon so those fish are not counted against the Alaskan share of the harvest.

Southeast Alaska Drift Gillnet Harvest Estimates Statistical Week 27 (June 30 through July 6) Preliminary Estimates Compiled July 5, 2013

	NUMBER OF SALMON							
								Days
District	King	Sockeye	Coho	Pink	Chum	Total	Boats	Open
Section 1-B	400	4,000	3,000	20,000	30,000	57,400	50	4
District 6	275	8,500	8,000	25,500	16,000	58,275	30	4
District 8	2,500	5,500	700	500	2,000	11,200	21	4
District 11	300	11,000	50	500	150,000	73,095	90	3
District 15	160	10,000	130	20,000	380,000	410,290	185	3
Deep Inlet THA	700	80	30	100	40,000	40,910	22	3
Total	4,335	39,080	11,910	66,600	618,000	651,170		

	FISH PER BOAT FOR THE PERIOD							
District	King	Sockeye	Coho	Pink	Chum	Total		
Section 1-B	8	80	60	400	600	1,148		
District 6	9	283	267	850	533	1,943		
District 8	119	262	33	24	95	533		
District 11	3	122	1	6	1,667	812		
District 15	1	54	1	108	2,054	2,218		
Deep Inlet THA	32	4	1	5	1,818	1,860		

Anita Bay THA: cumulative harvest of 9,000 king salmon. Nakat Inlet THA: cumulative harvest of 10,000 chum salmon.

News releases web site: <a href="http://www.adfg.alaska.gov/index.cfm?adfg=cfnews.main">http://www.adfg.alaska.gov/index.cfm?adfg=cfnews.main</a>.

Office	Ketchikan	Petersburg	Wrangell	Sitka	Juneau	Haines	Hoonah	Yakutat
ADF&G	225-5195	772-3801	874-3822	747-6688	465-4250	766-2830		784-3255
AWT	225-5111	772-3983	874-3215	747-3254	465-4000		945-3620	
Gillnet Hotline	225-6870	772-3700			465-8905	766-2830		